ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus and method for the detection and prevention of intrusions, DOS attacks, and computer worms comprising of: 1) dynamically loading information about vulnerabilities and exposures 2) intercepting application data 3) using information about vulnerabilities and exposures to detect their exploitation 4) taking custom action to stop the exploitation. Invention also includes an apparatus and method for reducing time it takes to capture information about vulnerabilities and exposures for the purpose of detecting their exploitation and stopping it. Invention further includes an apparatus and method to convert information about vulnerabilities and exposures into an intermediate form that optimizes the processing speed of the method and apparatus for stopping intrusions, DOS attacks, and computer worms.